is supplied. The proper callout is apparent from the specification at page 12, line 18. The drawing originally labeled as "Fig. 7" comprises two sheets, and therefore these sheets have been changed to be labeled --Fig. 7A-- for the first sheet and --Fig. 7B-- for the second sheet. Corresponding changes have been made to the specification.

The amendments to the specification presented herein correct obvious typographical errors and produce grammatical clarity. The amendments to the paragraphs on page 11, line 25 through page 12, lines 1-5, correct a figure item label and find basis in Figures 1, 7A, and 7B. The amendments to the paragraphs on page 14, lines 2-19 correct figure item labels, and find basis in Figures 7A and 7B. The amendments to the paragraphs on page 16, lines 16-21 correct figure item labels, and find basis in Figures 7A and 7B:

Included as an attachment to this Preliminary Amendment is a version of the specification paragraphs with markings to indicate the amendments, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.21(c)(1).

Respectfully submitted, HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Serial No.: 09/898,651 Filed: July 3, 2001 Conf. No.: 9587 Group Art Unit: 2161 For: LOTTERY BUYING AND SELLING SYSTEM INTRODUCING REAL-TIME In the UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE I hereby certify that this paper and the attached papers are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class [Priority] mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this date: | 9/3 7/0| | Date | Michelle Melendez | Date | Date

ATTACHMENT TO THE PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT MARKED-UP PARAGRAPHS (37 C.F.R. § 1.121)

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

ECONOMIC VARIABLE INDEXES

Please amend the specification as follows (deletions are indicated by brackets [] and insertions are underlined):

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 25, through page 12, lines 1-5 as follows.

FIG. [5] $\underline{6}$ is a flowchart illustrating an example of the prize winning and allotment type by counter calculation according to the present invention; and

FIGS. [7] 7A and 7B are views [is a view] illustrating examples of database models [an example of a database model] constituting the vendor system according to the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, lines 2-19.

The structure of the database of FIG. 2 will now be explained in detail with reference to FIGS. [7] 7A and 7B.

The consumer DB 240 and the allotment DB 250 are databases basically held by the vendor system 200 before the prize winning process is performed. The consumer DB 240 comprises a consumer ID field 241 and a bank field 242, and basically holds the data of competent members registered in the vendor system [20] 200. In the allotment table 250 are

entered amounts of allotment according to the respective prize winning grade. The amounts of allotment may be fixed for each grade. However, in case that the allotment is differently made according to the total amount of lottery purchase, the total amount of allotment is determined by the value obtained by multiplying the total amount of purchase for a day by a predetermined percentage, and the respective amounts of prize winning are determined by respectively multiplying the total amount of allotment by predetermined percentages. Thus determined values are written in the allotment table [25] 250.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, lines 16-21.

The DB models of FIGS. 2 and [7] 7A and 7B [is] are described as an example, and [it] can be freely changed within the limit of achieving the object of the present invention.

Next, the prize-winning determination and allotment process performed by the vendor system 200 will be explained in detail with reference to FIGS. 3 to [7] 7A and 7B.

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